

FRENCH TOOK TWO VILLAGES AND 1,700 PRISONERS IN DRIVE BETWEEN OISE AND AISNE RIVERS

Smashed German Defenses on Front of Nine Miles and Penetrated to Depth of More Than Mile; Advance Threatens the German Defense System

FRENCH GATHERED UP 400 PRISONERS IN PICARDY

The New Movement By Field Marshal Foch Is Calculated to Bring Up the Allies' Line Between the Oise and the Aisne Rivers

(By The Associated Press.)

Launching what may be described as an extensive local attack, the French on Sunday evening broke through the German positions along the vital sector connecting the Marne and Picardy battlefields.

This attack was over a front of approximately nine miles, from near Carlepont, east of the Oise, to Fatenoy, on the Aisne, about six miles west of Soissons. It is officially reported that an advance to an average depth of 1.3 miles was made all along the front of attack. A total of 1,700 prisoners is reported from Paris. It is reported from London that an extreme penetration of two miles has been made.

The villages of Nampcel and Nouvron-Vingre have been captured, and the French have reached the southern edge of the ravine at Andignicourt, which is between Nampcel and Nouvron-Vingre.

Since the situation along the Aisne and Vesle and in Picardy has seemed to be approaching a deadlock, indicating a return to the old trench warfare of the first two years of the war, an attack in the sector between the Aisne and the Oise has been expected. This line is vital to the German positions on each side of it. If it should be broken the whole German defensive scheme would be disarranged.

While the front over which the assault was launched is short, compared with those of the Marne and Picardy drives, the success attained by the French appears to point to a possibility of Marshal Foch breaking the enemy's resistance by a flank attack instead of a direct assault against the strong positions now held by the Germans between Soissons and Rheims and between the Oise and the Aisne.

The region in which the attack was made is quite rough and would seem to be well adapted to defensive warfare. It is intersected by ravines of some depth and has high wooded ridges here and there. There is an extension of the hilly district along the Oise, where savage fighting has been going on for the past week.

Along the Picardy battle front there have been local actions, in which 400 prisoners were taken by the French. London reports the French have captured St. Mar and Bouvignes, near Roye, thus increasing the peril of that bastion of the German line west of the Somme.

Farther north the British have penetrated the German positions near Arras. German attacks in the Flanders sector have been repulsed.

In the Merville sector the British have made a new advance, probably following up the Germans, who have been retreating in this part of the Lys salient for the past week.

The situation along the Aisne-Vesle sector is unchanged. The enemy continues his harassing attacks, using artillery and gas, but the French and Americans manage to cling to their bridgeheads north of the Vesle. In the Voignes American troops have advanced slightly near Frappe, captured Saturday. The Germans have been shelling the village heavily.

Austrian efforts to regain the islet in the lower Piave, taken last week by the Italians, have failed. In a counter-attack the Italians drove the enemy back and took 30 prisoners. In the mountain region the artillery has been active at isolated points.

NEW FRENCH DRIVE WAS CARRIED OUT DURING LAST NIGHT

Official Bulletin Given Out in Paris Says That the Operation Was Started in Order to Rectify the Line.

Paris, Aug. 19.—Between the Oise and the Aisne French troops attacked at 6 o'clock last night over a front of fifteen kilometers between Carlepont, about four miles east of Ribecourt and Eon, approximately six miles west of Soissons. They advanced an average distance of two kilometers over the whole front, according to the official statement issued by the war office.

The French have occupied the woods west of Nampcel, about seven miles northwest of Fatenoy and the edge of the ravine south of Andignicourt, two miles and a half east of Nampcel, according to the statement. Nouvron-Vingre was captured. Seventeen hun-

tered in yesterday's successful operation in this sector is not yet available. "The hostile artillery has shown some activity south of the Somme and has been active southwest and north of Bailloul."

FRENCH NOW HOLDING IMPORTANT GROUND

Located South of Andignicourt—Have Penetrated to Extreme Depth of Nearly Two Miles.

London, Aug. 19, 1:20 p. m.—The French tenth army, which attacked the German positions between the Oise and the Aisne last night, has penetrated to an extreme depth of nearly two miles. The enemy machine gunners are resisting desperately and the German air service is also very active.

St. Mar-des-Triots, a little over a mile southwest of Roye, was taken by the French yesterday, according to reports from the battlefield. The French also captured the town of Bouvignes, two and three-fourths miles south of St. Mar, according to dispatches.

BRITISH CAPTURED OUTERSTEEN RIDGE AND 500 PRISONERS

Made Important Gain in Front of the Town of Merria and Beat Off a Vicious Counter-Attack.

With the British Army in France, Aug. 19 (By the Associated Press).—British troops, after capturing Outersteen ridge in front of the town of Merria, have beaten off a vicious counter-attack and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. More than 500 Germans were captured. The ridge was captured by the British yesterday and the Germans counter-attacked last night and this morning the position, which overlooks considerable ground held by the enemy in the direction of Bailloul, now is firmly in British hands.

BRITISH DOMINIONS TO HAVE MORE VOICE

May Send Minister to London as a Member of the Imperial War Cabinet—India Will Also Be Represented.

London, Aug. 19.—The government announces that it has been decided to grant each dominion the right to send a minister to London as a member of the imperial war cabinet at meetings other than those attended by the prime minister. India also will be represented at these meetings.

FRENCH PENETRATED INTO LE HAMEL VILLAGE

London, Aug. 19, 4:45 p. m.—French troops penetrated into the village of Le Hamel, on the hills west of the Oise and northwest of Ribecourt, today, according to dispatches from the front. During the fighting to-day the French were on the aggressive but made some slight headway against the determined German resistance between Lassigny and the Oise.

prisoners, including two battalion commanders, were taken in the operations. The text reads: "During the night there were violent artillery action north and south of the Aisne."

"The number of prisoners counted in the region west of Roye yesterday exceeds 400."

"Last evening at 6 o'clock French troops attacked to rectify their front between the Oise and the Aisne. The attack was over a front of about fifteen kilometers from south of Carlepont to Fatenoy. We have realized an advance over the whole line to an average of two kilometers approximately."

"We have occupied the plateau west of Nampcel, reached the south edge of the ravine at Andignicourt and captured Nouvron-Vingre. Seventeen hundred prisoners, including two battalion commanders were captured."

"The night was calm on the rest of the front."

A MINOR SUCCESS SCORED BY BRITISH

They Made More Progress Near Merville, at the Apex of the Lys Salient, Capturing 50 Prisoners and a Few Machine Guns.

London, Aug. 19.—Near Merville at the apex of the Lys salient, the British have made more progress, says the official statement from Field Marshal Haig to-day. Fifty prisoners and a few machine guns were captured.

A German counter attack between Outersteen and Metereen was broken up by the British artillery, the statement says.

The text reads: "We secured a few prisoners last night in the Aisne sector and also south of the Scarpe, where our patrols entered the enemy's trenches and penetrated some distance into his position."

"North of the Scarpe a hostile raiding party was repulsed with losses."

"During the night our troops made progress in the Merville sector in spite of the opposition of hostile machine guns."

"Early in the night the enemy launched a counter attack against our new positions between Outersteen and Metereen. The attack was completely broken up by our artillery and machine gun fire."

"The total number of prisoners cap-

OPERATING OFF VIRGINIA CAPES

Submarine Sank Norwegian Bark Nordhav 125 Miles Out

HER CREW RESCUED BY U. S. WARSHIP

The Vessel Sailed on June 15 from Buenos Aires

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—The Norwegian bark Nordhav was sunk by a German submarine 125 miles off the Virginia capes Saturday. Her crew escaped in small boats and have been brought in an Atlantic port by an American warship.

Advices to the navy department today announcing the sinking did not say whether the bark was torpedoed or shelled. She was a vessel of 2,225 net tons and sailed on June 15 from Buenos Aires. Captain Berntsen was master of the bark.

The Nordhav was sent down at noon Saturday about 125 miles southeast of Cape Henry. There were 26 in her crew, all of whom escaped in two boats, which were picked up by the naval vessel.

GOVERNOR GRAHAM HAS NOTHING TO SAY

No Reply to Resolution of Republican State Committee Before Tomorrow.

Gov. H. F. Graham will have nothing to say until tomorrow, at least, about the action of the Republican state committee at Burlington Friday evening, asking the governor's resignation. J. R. Searies of St. Johnsbury, C. S. Skinner of Orleans and H. F. Fairchild of Fairfield, the committee from the Republican state committee, waited on the governor Saturday afternoon and presented him the resolution relative to the committee's action. Governor Graham gave the committee no enlightenment as to what course he may take in the matter.

The statement was made Saturday afternoon by Frank C. Williams, bank commissioner, denying that he ever received an invitation from the state committee, directly or indirectly, and that if he had received an invitation he would have attended the meeting at Burlington. This leads to belief that possibly Governor Graham did not get an invitation to attend, but the governor is making no statement relative to this matter.

A new feature has developed, according to the statements of one man, which brings the Graham affair into Democratic politics. It is understood that a prominent Democrat has, gone to Washington, D. C., to protest the recent appointment of so many Republicans on the civilian commissions in Vermont. It is urged that some of these appointments belong to the Democrats. So far as can be learned by those that know something of the affair, Governor Graham has had little to do with the appointments most desired. These are more particularly the executive secretaries of the fuel and food administration and the recent appointment of R. W. Simonds as federal director of the U. S. employment service. Mr. Simonds' appointment, however, came direct from Washington without recommendation from anyone and Governor Graham did not know of it. This appointment is probably due to the fact that Mr. Simonds is state director of the public reserve.

FRITZY WASTING SHELLS.

On John L. Martin of Williamstown—Latter Is Fast Recovering.

Williamstown, Aug. 19.—Mr. and Mrs. George F. Martin did not know that their son, John Leslie Martin, had been wounded until they received the following letter from him. He evidently had written before but the letter had not reached them.

"July 30, 1918.

"Dear Mother: Just a few lines to let you know that I am still getting along fine. I am up around now quite a bit and got my clothes on to-day. Gee, but it was great to get out again. We are in one of the most beautiful places I have seen in France. I wish I could tell you the name, but it would never pass."

"Well, mother, don't worry over me. I shall be all right if they don't do any more than they have already. Fritzzy will have to waste another shell on me before he gets me proper. If it costs him two for every man he will soon get out of ammunition."

Mr. Martin enlisted in Co. I, 2d Massachusetts Infantry, at Westfield, Mass., on May 21, 1917. He was transferred to the 104th infantry, 28th division, and went overseas in September last. It is seven months since he first went into the front line trenches. He will be 21 years old the 26th of this month.

IS IN HOSPITAL.

Sergt. James Brown Got Shot from a Shell.

Mrs. John Brown of 15 Bassett street received a telegram from the war department Saturday evening advising her that her son, Sergt. James Brown, had been severely wounded in action July 22. The message did not state the nature of the wound. On the day previous relative of the young soldier received from his letter writer Aug. 1 and Western Aug. 2, in which he told of having been put out of action by shell shock. He was in a military hospital when he wrote the letter, which was of a very reassuring tone. Sergt. Brown was attached to a company of the 101st machine gun battalion. He enlisted in Barre in the summer of 1917 and went overseas in the fall.

GASOLINE NOT TO JUMP.

No Radical Change in the Price Is Expected.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—Plans for the stabilization of petroleum prices, as recommended by the national petroleum war service committee in New York last week, were accepted to-day by the fuel administration, which announced its belief that the agreement will prevent any radical change in consumers' prices of gasoline and other oil products.

ORDERS FOR 43 MORE SHIPS ARE AWARDED

Shipping Board Will Build 33 Cargo Vessels, Seven Wooden Barges and Three Harbor Tugs.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—Contracts for thirty-three wooden cargo vessels, each of 3,500 deadweight tons, seven wooden barges and three wooden harbor tugs were left the week ending Aug. 10, the shipping board announced to-day.

NO EXEMPTION FOR MARRIAGE

Sec. Baker Says in Commenting on Proposed New Draft

BOYS OF 18 YEARS TO BE CALLED LAST

Immediate Enactment of the Bill Is Declared to Be Necessary

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—No general exemption of married men simply because of their married status is contemplated by the war department in preparing for the proposed extension of draft ages, Secretary Baker declared to-day in a statement before the House military committee on the new administration manpower bill.

Mr. Baker said his previous remarks on this subject had been misconstrued, and that married men who do not support their families and who are not engaged in useful occupations will continue to be called.

"There are many married men in the country who ought to go and fight as freely as single men," he added.

The war secretary, with General March and Provost Marshal General Crowder appeared before the House committee at open hearings to reiterate their explanation given the Senate that immediate enactment of the manpower bill is imperative in order to carry out the enlarged war program.

"There are two ways of prosecuting this war," Mr. Baker said. "One way is to make every possible effort to do it now and the other is to proceed somewhat more leisurely and do it later. The obvious advantage from every standpoint, social, military, industrial and economic, is to put forth every effort in this country and win the war as soon as possible."

Leaving an explanation of the manpower situation to General Crowder, the secretary announced that because of objections to calling boys of 18 he had planned to defer their call as long as possible and would not object to placing a provision in the bill making a separate class of men between 18 and 19 years of age for deferring calling them "as far as practicable" until after others in class 1 had been exhausted.

"There is a sentiment in this committee," said Mr. Baker, "I don't know how large, against calling men as young as 18 unless it is absolutely necessary. I think the sentiment of the country is to get all the men necessary. But from the beginning I have planned as a matter of regulation, to have men from 18 to 19 put in a separate class, with a view to deferring their call until it is necessary."

He added that this preference might well be left to executive regulations, but he would have no objection to having a specific provision written into the bill.

Regarding exemption of married men, Secretary Baker was closely examined by committee members. Representative Tilson of Connecticut suggested that many men are being married to evade the new draft, and that the bill should provide that those married after the new bill was introduced should not be exempt. Mr. Baker said such a rigid provision of the law was unnecessary, that the department could disregard all marriages made to evade the new law.

As to how long before men called under the new law will go across, Mr. Baker said not more than six months' training would be given at home.

In extending the draft ages, Secretary Baker said, suspension of academic education is an "unavoidable problem" of the situation, and that it would be most unfortunate to have all collegiate education stopped. He believed there still would be many youths left at school, but was against exemption of college students as a class as "thoroughly undemocratic." Scientifically trained experts, however, are needed and education of such men must be continued to an extent. Men injured in the war would be sent to colleges after they recover, the secretary explained, and thus to some extent fill up academic institutions. Regarding present exemption of divinity students, he said, their draft for army chaplains is being urged.

The department's plans, Mr. Baker said, are to call all the younger men by the middle of next year, but substantially after the school year is through.

General Crowder interjected that the new program is expected to raise 2,300,000 men by June 30, 1919, and that it is proposed to call 2,000,000 men by that time.

Eighty American divisions of 45,000 men each, General March told the House military committee to-day, "should be able to bring the war to a successful conclusion in 1919." That is the number the war department plans to have in France by next June 30.

SENATE WILL ACT ON BILL THIS WEEK

Consideration of Man-Power Measure Will Be Taken Up Thursday, the Members Decided To-day.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—Consideration of the new man-power bill, extending the draft ages, will begin in the Senate next Thursday. With a quorum present to-day, the Senate set aside the agreement for vacation recesses until Aug. 24, and cleared the way for taking up the draft measure without further delay.

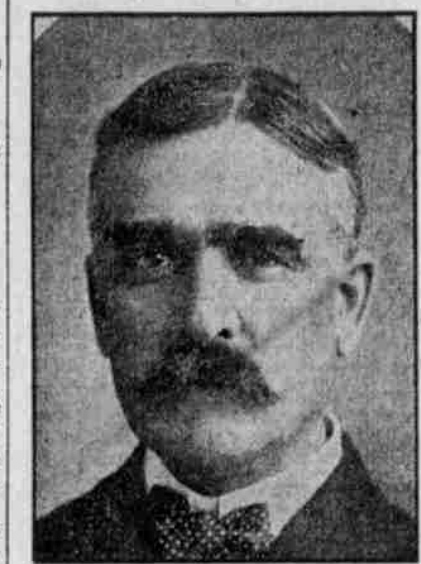
Fifty-seven senators, 29 Republicans and 28 Democrats, answered to-day's roll call. As soon as it was found that a quorum was present, Senator Chamberlain asked that the recess agreement be evacuated and there was no opposition. He then announced he would bring up the man-power bill Thursday.

WAGE INCREASE APPROVED.

Western Union Men Given 10 Per Cent Increase.

New York, Aug. 19.—Postmaster-General Burleson, in control of telegraph and telephone systems, has approved the 10 per cent increase in wages of employees of the Western Union Telegraph company, it was announced at the company's offices to-day.

EX-GOV. PROUTY KILLED ON RAILROAD CROSSING NEAR WATERVILLE, P. Q.



EX-GOV. G. H. PROUTY Killed Near Waterville, P. Q.

AUTO MOUNTED WALK AND INJURED GIRL

Kathleen Carroll, Aged 7, Had Collar Bone Broken, On North Main Street Saturday Afternoon.

Two children were injured, one seriously, and others were in imminent danger Saturday afternoon when a Peerless touring car, driven by Miss Miriam Staples of Montpelier skated across the curbing of the sidewalk in front of the J. B. Sanguinetti store on North Main street. With the girl at the wheel was her father, A. B. Staples, a granite manufacturer. Kathleen Carroll, seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carroll of North Main street, received a fractured collar bone, a badly bruised left ear and other injuries. Her sister, Alice Carroll, who is an older girl, with whom she was walking, was uninjured; but Annie Barclay of 26 Brook street received a bad bruise on her right elbow when she was hit by the car and thrown to the sidewalk.

Hundreds of people passing along the street in a busy hour of the day witnessed the accident. The Carroll girl was rendered unconscious and when the car stopped after leaving the curbing one of the front wheels lay across her body. Mr. Staples, who had taken the wheel by that time, stopped the car immediately and the child was hurried to her home, where Dr. J. H. Woodruff and M. L. Chandler were called. It was immediately ascertained that the collar bone had been fractured and for a time it was feared that a number of ribs were fractured in such a manner as to encourage the development of internal injuries. The child's left ear was badly torn and there was a deep cut on her left elbow. The Barclay girl was able to go home without assistance.

The automobile which figured in the accident was proceeding slowly down North Main street, according to those who noticed the car. Miss Staples, who is not a practical driver, was keeping the car well to the right side of the highway when she noticed a team coming out of Seminary street. She said afterward that it looked as though a collision would ensue, and to avoid trouble she thought to turn into Seminary street and leave half the crossing to the team. As she turned, however, she noticed a number of pedestrians passing along the crossing. To avoid running into them she once more reversed the wheel and this time the car shot up over the sidewalk and skirted the curbing for several feet before Mr. Staples, who came to his daughter's assistance, had time to guide it back into the street.

Grand Juror William Wisbart, who investigated the cause of the accident, said Saturday evening that there was nothing to indicate that the car was going rapidly, although he thought that undoubtedly the girl driver became much confused when teams and people at the crossing began to complicate matters. Mr. Staples and his daughter remained at the Carroll home until they learned that the child would recover and before leaving for home they assured her parents that they were desirous of assisting in any way possible.

BETHEL MAN KILLED BY A FALL DOWNSTAIRS

James F. O'Connor, Aged 48, Sustained a Fracture of Skull and Internal Injuries Yesterday.

Bethel, Aug. 19.—James F. O'Connor, 48, unmarried, of Bethel, an employee of the Bethel Chrome Tanning Co., died about 9 o'clock yesterday morning as the result of falling downstairs about 4 o'clock that morning at Miss Mae Jones' boardinghouse. In the darkness he made a misstep and it is supposed that when he fell he landed on his head struck a hardwood step, causing the fracture of the skull and the internal bleeding to which Dr. C. V. Greene attributed his death.

Several people heard him fall. The first to reach him was Walter Morrison, a fellow-workman, who found him already starting up the stairs, able to converse, and on Mr. O'Connor's assurance that he would be all right, everyone settled down for a Sunday morning nap. About 5 o'clock Miss Savage awoke and, going to his room, found him breathing heavily, with considerable evidence of hemorrhage through the ear. She called a physician, who found him dead on his arrival. It was the physician's opinion that nothing could have been done for him if he had been called at first. A young friend of the dead man, George McLeod, who shared the bed with him, slept soundly throughout the incident and knew nothing of what had happened.

Undertaker Cady prepared the body for burial, but it was held pending instructions from sisters said to be living in Gardiner, Me., whose names are not known here. The deceased was a good workman, well liked by his fellow-workmen and fellow-boarders.

Was Riding in Automobile from His Home in Newport to Lennoxville, P. Q., Where He Was to Take a Train for Jackman, Me.

CHAUFFEUR RECEIVED BRAIN CONCUSSION

Prouty Was Governor of Vermont from 1908 to 1910—He Had Extensive Lumber Interests in Vermont, Maine and Canada

Newport, Aug. 19.—George H. Prouty, ex-governor of Vermont and one of the best known men of the state, was instantly killed when his automobile was struck by a train near Waterville, P. Q., at 6:30 this morning while he was on his way to his lumber camp at Jackman, Me. J. W. Blay, his chauffeur, was seriously injured.

Ex-Governor Prouty was 58 years of age, having been born in this town March 4, 1862. He was the son of John A. and Hannah B. (Lamb) Prouty. He was educated in the Newport public schools, at St. Johnsbury academy and in Bryant & Stratton Business college in Boston. At the age of 18 years he entered the lumber business, being employed by his father, who, with O. C. Miller, was proprietor of a large business in northern Vermont. The young man developed into one of the most prominent business men of the state, his plant being one of the most extensive in northern New England, owning large properties in Canada and Maine, besides the mills in this town.

Mr. Prouty's political career began when he entered the Vermont legislature as Newport's representative in 1896. He was senator from Orleans county in 1904 and was president pro tem of that body. He was elected lieutenant governor in 1906 and two years later was chosen as governor. His administration was recognized as one of the most successful in recent years. Following his retirement to private life he had engaged extensively in the lumber business and was also a director of the Boston & Maine railroad.

DENSE FOG HID APPROACHING ENGINE

And Chauffeur Drove on Grand Trunk Track Before the Men Knew of Their Danger—Ex-Gov. Prouty Was Killed Instantly.

Sherbrooke, Que., Aug. 19.—G. H. Prouty, formerly governor of Vermont, was killed when the automobile in which he was riding was struck by a Grand Trunk train near Waterville to-day. The chauffeur was rendered unconscious. Mr. Prouty was on his way from Newport, Vt., to take a train at Lennoxville for Jackman, Me., when the chauffeur failed to observe the approaching engine owing to dense fog. Mr. Prouty was instantly killed. The chauffeur, J. W. Blay, was taken to a hospital suffering from concussion of the brain.

Ex-Governor Prouty was identified at first by papers found in his coat pockets.

WAS NEARLY RECOVERED.

Sergt. Albert A. Marr Had Bullet Hole in Arm.

Relatives of Sergt. Albert A. Marr, who was reported severely wounded in action July 18, have received several letters from him in which he states that his wound was caused by a bullet passing through the fleshy part of his right arm. He was taken to a base hospital at Nantes and on the 25th was pronounced O. K. and expected to leave the hospital very soon. He speaks highly of the treatment which he received while at the hospital and stated that the nurse of his ward was a cousin of Miss Cora Roberts, a former classmate of his at Spaulding.

While in the hospital he was privileged to hear a concert given by two violinists and a singer, also to attend a band concert and several moving picture shows which were conducted by the Red Cross. On the 21st he attended church, the chaplain of which was from Rhode Island and a very interesting man.

Among former Barre boys whom Sergt. Marr mentioned was Stanley Averill. Averill is with a Massachusetts company and was stationed in a town through which they were passing while on a route march.

GOT OUT OF IT LUCKY.

That Is the Way First-Class Private Ralph Lawless Thinks.

Mrs. Erwin Lawless received on Saturday a letter from her son, First-Class Private Ralph Lawless, telling that he was in a hospital, having been admitted on July 22. He writes: "I received concussion caused from the explosion of a shell. I don't see how I happened to get out of it so lucky as there were a number of fellows wounded by the same one and one fellow was killed. All I can remember is seeing the flash of light go up after the shell exploded and the next I knew I was in the field hospital in a crying and shaking condition. Believe me, I can thank God for coming out of it as lucky as I did."

"When it comes to hand to hand battle the Germans are not there, but if there is ten of them to one of us they will fight. It will be O. K. in a little while. This is leaving me as well as could be expected. Don't worry."